

HOUSE No. 1103

By Ms. Khan of Newton, petition of Kay Khan and others relative
to the duties of the Board of Education. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Kay Khan	Joyce A. Spiliotis
Douglas W. Petersen	Susan C. Fargo
Christine E. Canavan	Thomas J. O'Brien

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 1B of chapter 69 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 2000 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 striking out lines 99-102, inclusive, and inserting in place thereof
4 the following words:—

5 The board shall establish the permissible and mandatory ages
6 for school attendance; provided, that the minimum required age
7 for school attendance shall be promulgated such that each child of
8 the commonwealth be required to enter school or corresponding
9 educational program at kindergarten age.

1 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this act shall not be exempt from the
2 provisions of section 27c of chapter 29 of the General Laws, as so
3 appearing.

1 SECTION 3. Chapter 15 of the General Laws, as so appearing,
2 is hereby amended by adding the following new section:—

3 Section 66. The board of education shall establish a grant pro-
4 gram, the purpose of which is to assist school districts in reducing
5 class size by hiring additional highly qualified teachers. Said
6 grants shall be available to hire teachers for both regular and

7 special education students with special consideration for kinder-
8 garten through grade three. Said grants may be used for: recruit-
9 ment, hiring and training of certified regular or special education
10 teachers and to provide professional development for teachers.
11 Grants shall be used to supplement, not supplant, federal, state or
12 local funds for these activities. No funds may be used to increase
13 salaries or provide benefits for current teachers, other than for
14 professional development, enrichment or mentoring other
15 teachers. Districts that have already reduced class size in the early
16 grades to a ratio of 1:18 may use the funds for any of the
17 following activities: further reducing class size in kindergarten
18 through grade three; reducing class size in other grades; or,
19 improving teacher quality, including professional development.
20 Each school district receiving said grants shall annually report to
21 parents, the public and the department of education on student
22 achievement that is a direct result of hiring additional qualified
23 teachers and reducing class size.